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NCEA 30 Day Outlook 9-27-2017.docx

**National Center for Environmental Assessment
Weekly Report for September 27th, 2017**

Notables listed below and 30-day Outlook attached.

PUBLIC ACTIVITIES

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OMB IRIS Meeting. On October 3rd, Tina Bahadori and Kris Thayer will provide an update on the IRIS Program to the Office of Management and Budget.

U.S. Department of State Support. NCEA scientists were asked to provide scientific and technical support to the Bureau of Medical Services at the U.S. Department of State on the health messaging component of a guidance document being developed for U.S. Posts worldwide on the use of low cost air pollution sensors.

TCEQ Inorganic Arsenic Assessment. The IRIS inorganic arsenic team identified an error in a recent bladder cancer and lung cancer meta-regression analysis (Lynch et al. 2017) that is the focus of the new Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) draft inorganic arsenic proposal, currently posted for public comment. Lynch et al. (2017) used an approach published in an earlier bladder cancer assessment by Chu and Crawford-Brown (2006) that involves the use of annual incidence rates instead of lifetime incidence rates, resulting in risk estimates that are roughly 100-fold too low. The authors of both papers are submitting errata to their corresponding journals as a result of EPA IRIS communications with the corresponding author of the Lynch et al. (2017) paper.

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WITHIN EPA

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National Inventory for Reactive Nitrogen. On September 28, Robert Sabo will be presenting at the SHC monthly call on the National Inventory for Reactive Nitrogen (Nr Inventory). This is a project under SHC 4.61.4 that compiles downscaled information on major fluxes and pools for Reactive Nitrogen across the contiguous U.S. to support decision making on nitrogen management from local to regional scales.

Office of Water (OW)--Oceans Coasts Branch Meeting presentation. On October 2, Jordan West will give a presentation at OW on adaptation planning frameworks (CIVA 2.9), including the climate-smart framework and Adaptation Design Tool demonstrated for coral reefs through the Corals & Climate Adaptation Planning (CCAP) project.

Federal Lead Strategy Draft Report. Ellen Kirrane provided comments to the Office of Air and Radiation on the Background for Federal Lead Strategy draft report. This report is being prepared by the President's Task Force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children, which consists of 11 Federal Agencies and six White House offices

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PUBLICATIONS AND PRODUCT UPDATES

“Interpreting Mobile and Handheld Air Sensor Readings in Relation to Air Quality Standards and Health Effect Reference Values: Tackling the Challenges”. George Woodall led development of an invited paper on *“Interpreting Mobile and Handheld Air Sensor Readings in Relation to Air Quality Standards and Health Effect Reference Values: Tackling the Challenges”* which was published in a special issue of the open-access journal Atmosphere. Other NCEA contributors include Annie Jarabek, James Brown, and Michael Stewart. The paper reviews many of the activities of the multi-agency Air Sensors Health Group (ASHG). DOI:10.3390/atmos8100182

“Ecosystem Services at Contaminated Site Cleanups”. Mike Kravitz is a contributing author to the recently published Engineering Forum Issue Paper, *“Ecosystem Services at Contaminated Site Cleanups”*. The paper was developed to provide cleanup site teams with information about ecosystem services. The concepts and tools presented are useful in communicating the positive results of cleanup in addition to achieving the goals of cleanup. The paper can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/remedytech/technical-support-project-cleaning-contaminated-sites-issue-papers#engineering> (under “Engineering Forum 2017”).

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RECOGNITION

Associate Editorship, Drug & Chemical Toxicology. NCEA scientist, Dr. Suryanarayana Vulimiri has been selected to be an Associate Editor of the journal Drug & Chemical Toxicology.

Environmental Defense Fund's Health Blog. The article co-authored by Jim Brown, "*Children's Lead Exposure: A Multimedia Modeling Analysis to Guide Public Health Decision-Making*" in Environmental Health Perspectives was highlighted in the Environmental Defense Fund's Health Blog. The objective of the paper was to couple exposure and dose modeling to determine a relationship between drink water lead levels and blood lead levels in children.

- Environmental Defense Fund's Health Blog:
http://blogs.edf.org/health/2017/09/14/new-epa-model-lead/?utm_source=EDF+Health&utm_campaign=48f2460d30-RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_4d0debabb0-48f2460d30-101618261

- The original article (DOI: 10.1289/EHP1605) can be found at <https://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/ehp1605/>

Other Items of Interest

University of Maryland Presentation. On October 2, Jason Fritz will present a seminar as part of the graduate level course at the University of Maryland, School of Public Health, titled "*Understanding the components of an IRIS assessment, and the assessment development process.*" The presentation is a compilation of several NCEA "Risk Assessment and Training Experience" instructional modules, and will summarize information already made publicly available regarding the drafting of IRIS Toxicological Reviews, with a focus on the fundamentals of reference and risk value derivation.

University of Iowa Superfund Research Program (ISRP). On October 2nd – 3rd, Geniece Lehmann and Xabier Arzuaga will teach a basic risk assessment course at the University of Iowa. The following day, they will attend the ISRP 2017 External Advisory Committee meeting, which will be focused on establishing a plan to guide the ISRP into the future. Geniece's and Xabier's expertise will help ISRP researchers to understand how their research is used in risk assessment and to be mindful of those uses in their future research planning efforts.

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